

DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Hearing Date: July 11, 2003

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Scope of practice for RDAEFs and RDHEFs

Section (s) Affected: 1087.1 and 1089.1

Specific Purpose of each adoption, amendment, or repeal:

The proposed changes would require that each person who holds a license as an RDAEF or RDHEF on the effective date of the regulation change, must provide evidence of having completed a board-approved course or courses, and an examination, in the many of the new allowable duties prior to their performance, and as a condition of renewal on and after January 1, 2006.

Factual Basis:

Regulation Section 1087 and 1089 define the duties that Registered Dental Assistants in Extended Functions (RDAEFs) and Registered Dental Hygienists in Extended Functions (RDHEP) are allowed to perform, and the setting and level of dentist supervision required when performing such duties.

The proposed changes would expand the duties that RDAEFs and RDHEFs are allowed for perform. The proposed changes would also allow the degree of supervision to be determined by the dentist, commensurate with the EFs knowledge, skills, and abilities, unless the Board determines that the supervision level should be established by regulation for a particular duty.

The proposed changes would require that each person who holds a license as an RDAEF or RDHEF on the effective date of the regulation change must provide evidence of having completed a board-approved course or courses, and an examination, of five of the new duties prior to their performance, and as a condition of renewal on or after January 1, 2006.

The proposed changes would allow an EF to be employed or supervised by an RDHAP if limited to duties falling within the scope of practice of both the EF and RDHAP.

All of the proposed changes will potentially allow more dental services to be provided to California consumers.

Underlying Data

None

Business Impact:

This regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on businesses.

Specific Technologies or Equipment

This regulation does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

Consideration of Alternatives

No reasonable alternative which was considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Dental Board of California would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation.